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that, as he had acted upon the belief that the first decision was an affirmation of its validity, he was within the protection of that clause in the Constitution which provides that the obligation of contracts shall not be impaired by any State. Held, that the question as to whether the contract was void or not, was subject to the final determination of the court, a previous assumption of its validity having no effect as against the final decision, and that the plaintiff was not within the protection of the constitutional provision.

Riparian Rights—"High Water Mark"—*Assessment of Benefits*.—*Carpenter et al. v. Board of Commissioners of Hennepin County*, 58 N. W. Rep. 295 (Minn.) An assessment for benefit on lands actually damaged by the proposed "beneficial measure" was held to be void, and the right of the State, in aid of navigation, to maintain the water of a lake up to ordinary "high-water mark" without compensation to riparian owners, turns on the construction of the term "high-water mark." For fresh-water rivers and lakes, "high-water mark" was held to be a line separating land valuable for pasturage and agriculture from that rendered useless by frequent action of the water, a line coördinate in no case with unusual or extraordinary high-water mark.

Roads—*Dedication*—*Prescription*.—*Jones v. Phillips, Road Overseer*, 26 S. W. Rep. 386 (Ark.). The appellee was granted an order restraining the appellant from obstructing a portion of the public road, alleged by him to be under his supervision, to which the appellant excepted and appeals. Although the appellant permitted the public to use the road which was on her soil, the Court could discover no intention or acts on her part to make a dedication. The main contention of the appellee was "that the public had acquired a right by prescription—by continuous, uninterrupted and adverse use for more than a statutory period." Inasmuch as the owners have never ceased to keep gates and fences where it enters the field on either side, they have never ceased to exercise dominion, absolute or qualified.